



KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Creating knowledge, exploring the past, and educating the future

The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology is an internationally recognized institution that houses the university's collections of ancient Egyptian, Near Eastern, Greek, Roman, Coptic, and Islamic art and artifacts. The majority of the nearly 100,000 objects come from Kelsey excavations in Egypt and Iraq before World War II. Our materials from the excavation of Karanis, a small Egyptian farming village of Graeco-Roman date, are unmatched by any collection outside of Egypt itself.

The Kelsey mounts active programs of excavation, collection research, and exhibitions, which are at the forefront of archaeological research and bring the results of our work to the public in engaging and innovative ways. Over the past 30 years, the programs of the Kelsey Museum have grown dramatically. This has taken place in tandem with the growth of the university's Graduate Program in Classical Art and Archaeology, housed in the Kelsey. With the university's support, a first-class staff of faculty curators has been gathered to work on, teach from, and display the priceless artifacts in our collections.

This staff, these collections, and a burgeoning group of students eager to work with the museum's materials create invaluable opportunities to mount exhibitions that bring together in dynamic ways the research of the curators and the enthusiasm of the students. Such exhibitions are not only of interest to academic and research communities but serve to educate, challenge, and delight the general public.

As the home of one of the most comprehensive collections of Egyptian and Near Eastern art and artifacts outside of Egypt, the Kelsey Museum needs support to present special exhibits, cover the costs for students and faculty to travel for archaeological field work, conduct research, and make acquisitions for the collections. Curators are needed to oversee collections, exhibits, excavation trips, and research projects. Additionally, gifts are needed to ensure that the Kelsey Museum remains at the top of the field with the latest technology and equipment at its disposal.

STUDENT RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

As part of the teaching mission of the museum and its associated programs, annual gifts of \$50,000 to \$100,000 are needed to sponsor student participation in archaeological field work and collections research. It costs \$3,000 per student for travel and room and board expenses for the summer. Summer research teams include 15 graduate students and 10 undergraduates.

FACULTY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The faculty involved in archaeological field work and collections research travel to distant sites to collect samples, which need to be scientifically analyzed before they can be added to the Kelsey collection. Contributions of \$50,000 annually for research fellowships would allow the museum to make awards to faculty to make these trips, purchase necessary equipment, analyze their samples, and publish the scholarly results of their research.

KELSEY MUSEUM EQUIPMENT FUND

The Kelsey Museum's staff and students depend upon equipment to study and care for the artifacts in the collection. The museum needs expendable funding of \$50,000 to \$100,000 to update and replace instruments and equipment on a regular basis. Examples of current needs include:

- A microsystems microscope to replace the stereo microscope that's been used for more than 20 years. A modern microscope would provide higher magnification, improving the ability of faculty and students to teach with and learn from ancient objects in the collection. The floor stand and adjustable arm would also provide flexibility, allowing large and oversize objects to be studied. The integrated illumination and digital imaging would allow photography of microscopic details, providing images suitable for teaching and publication.
- A handheld X-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometer would enable conservators to design better treatment and preventive conservation plans for archaeological objects with the information collected. XRF complements other analytical techniques and is often the first type of investigation performed when conducting technical analysis.



"Through hands-on learning and collections research, students are able to experience the awe and wonder of handling the very alien-seeming traces of the past. Sustained interactions with the Kelsey's collections also allow students to gain a deep understanding of ancient cultures and form a profound empathy for people of the past. It is this dual feeling—of wonder and empathy—that makes the museum a transformative space."

—Joseph Frankl, IPCAA student, LSA Class of '23



SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS FUND

The Kelsey Museum presents three public exhibitions annually that complement the permanent collection galleries. Costs for these exhibitions exceed the current operational budget and can average from \$50,000 to \$75,000 per exhibition. The budgets include loan fees from peer institutions (both national and international), shipping and crating costs, insurance, catalog publications, and gallery fabrications and graphics. An endowed gift of \$1M to \$5M would provide the required funding needed for these exhibitions.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSERVATION POST-GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

A Conservation Fellowship program will further the educational mission of the Kelsey by improving education and training for young professionals who will become important stewards of archaeological and cultural heritage. An endowment of \$1.5M would support an annual stipend, participation in Kelsey Museum excavations and other expenses, including attendance at professional conferences, equipment and supplies. The Kelsey is one of the few institutions in the world that integrates archaeological fieldwork, teaching, research, exhibitions, and conservation. It is uniquely positioned to offer hands-on training in the conservation of archaeological objects in museum collections as well as in comprehensive conservation for active excavations. The two-year fellowship will be supervised by the museum's two professional conservators.

ENDOWED CURATORSHIP

The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology mounts active programs of excavation, collection research, and exhibitions that are at the forefront of archaeological research. Exhibitions represent one of the most important and accessible ways we can bring our research to the public. Preparations for exhibitions are, however, a substantial undertaking, involving the curator-in-charge, designers, builders, conservators, and registrars. With the university's support, a first-class staff of faculty curators has been gathered to work on, teach from, and display the priceless artifacts in our collections. In order to continue to care for the Kelsey collections at the highest levels of curatorial excellence and contemporary museum standards, endowed support of \$1.5M for a curatorship is needed.

INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeology provides a unique perspective on the past, and the University of Michigan has been a national leader in archaeological research and education for several decades. Unlike most of our peer institutions, moreover, U-M is equally strong in both Old World and New World archaeology, and in both the area-studies based traditions of Classical and Near Eastern archaeology and the anthropological approaches of prehistoric archaeology, including the archaeology of the Americas. A major fund-raising priority of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology is to establish a university-wide Institute for Archaeology, which would build on and strengthen existing ties between departments and forge new links with students and scholars across the university who share common interests in the material aspects of human culture, and would cost \$10M to name.

The Institute would provide both a physical and an intellectual meeting place for students, research scientists, and members of the faculty engaged in all aspects of archaeological education and research. It would function like a science laboratory—providing specialized technical support and, like a traditional U-M center or institute, providing an intellectual framework for interdisciplinary activities such as lectures and workshops.

Different units, especially the Kelsey Museum and the Museum of Anthropology, as well as the Departments of Anthropology, Classical Studies, the History of Art, and Middle East Studies all currently provide support for both teaching and research in archaeology. The new institute would complement that support by contributing independent teaching and research facilities and work space for both student- and faculty-directed field projects.

One increasingly important aspect of contemporary archaeology not presently supported by the university is digital spatial analysis, ranging from remote sensing to geophysical prospection and from GIS (Geographical Information Systems) to complex photo-modeling. By providing these services (through both equipment and staffing), the Institute for Archaeology could enhance teaching and research, draw interested units closer together, and strengthen ties with related units, such as the College of Natural Resources and the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Another unusual aspect of archaeology is its intersection with the natural sciences, especially biology (archaeobotany and archaeozoology) and geology (chemical analysis of pottery and stone). A new Institute of Archaeology would strengthen the university's existing commitments to archaeological science by providing a home base for research scientists in fields not currently covered by the university, such as archaeological geology.

FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT TO LAUNCH:

- Teaching and research facilities: \$3.5M expendable
- Laboratory Equipment: \$500,000 expendable

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR NAMED INSTITUTE:

- Directorship: \$2.5M endowed
- Two postdoctoral positions: \$75,000 each annually / \$1.5M each endowed
- Laboratory equipment and maintenance: \$25,000 annually / \$500,000 endowed

WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

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